



# STATE OF IOWA

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GOVERNOR  
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LT. GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL POLICY  
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For Immediate Release:  
Friday, May 25, 2012

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## **Governor Branstad Signs Bill Tightening Controls on Dangerous Synthetic Drugs**

DES MOINES – Governor Branstad today signed into law Senate File 2343, a bill to update Iowa's list of controlled substances. The measure expands the State's ban on synthetic drugs, sometimes sold as incense or bath salts under names such as Spice and Ivory Wave, to apply to many more variations.

"Effective immediately, Iowa's new synthetic drug control law greatly improves protections for Iowans," said Branstad. "By signing this bill, the State is taking a proactive approach to tackling this elusive synthetic drug problem."

The bill signed today outlaws a total of 43 specific synthetic drug compounds, plus five broader classes of synthetic drugs as Schedule I Controlled Substances. That compares with eight such compounds now controlled federally, and previously by Iowa law.

Manufacturing, selling or possessing synthetic drugs with the intent to deliver are aggravated misdemeanors, subject to a penalty of up to two years in prison and a \$6,250 fine. Possession of synthetic drugs is a serious misdemeanor, subject to a penalty of up to one year in jail and a \$1,875 fine.

"The synthetic drug threat has evolved rapidly over the last two years, endangering a growing number of people, particularly young unsuspecting Iowans," said Dale Woolery, Interim Director of the Governor's Office of Drug Control Policy. "I'm grateful to the Governor and Legislature for their bold action, part of a one-two punch of legislation and education needed to curb both the sale of synthetic drugs and Iowans' use of these dangerous products."

The bill signed into law today also makes other changes to Iowa's controlled substance statute, to conform to unrelated updates in federal regulations.

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